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RURAL DISTRICT
OF CLOWNE
DERBYSHIRE

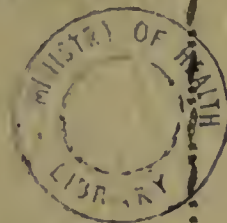
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
and the
Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1959



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OF CLOWNE
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CLOWNE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor Mrs D. M. Ashley
Vice-Chairman : Councillor W. Rose
Committee : All Members of the Council

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. A. R. ROBERTSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
"Dale Close," 100, Chesterfield Road South, Mansfield,
(Tel. : Mansfield 811/2)

Clerk: Miss P. M. WILSON.

Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector :

A. A. Short, C.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.,
(Tel. Clowne 88 & 89)

Senior Additional Public Health Inspector :

Mr A. B. Buckland.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

Mr T. G. Robinson.

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PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the
Clowne Rural District Council.

Madam Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Once again I have the privilege of submitting to you an Annual Report. The year in question, 1959, was made sad by the death of my predecessor, Dr A. H. Wear. You know better than I the sterling service which Dr. Wear gave to the Council. He had worked long and hard and I am very sorry that his retirement was so short.

I hope you will find the Report to be interesting and of some use. Again, it is my privilege and pleasure to thank you for the interest you have shown throughout the year and for the help and encouragement you gave to my Department.

Each year I have to thank everyone on the staff of Clowne R.D.C. for their help. I wish to stress that this repetition is not just a meaningless formula. I mean it sincerely every year. Finally, my sincere thanks to Mr Culverhouse (Clerk of the Council) for all his help and advice.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

'Dale Close',
100, Chesterfield Road South,
Mansfield.

LEUKAEMIA IN MY DISTRICT AND THE PRESS

In 1959 I attended the Royal Society of Health Congress in Harrogate. One morning I came down to breakfast (as usual I was the last down) to find that one of my districts was splashed across some of the National newspapers. Creswell, a town in Clowne Rural District, was described as a "village of fear". According to the papers, there had been five deaths from leukaemia in Creswell in the last two or three months. You got the impression that an air of doom lay over Creswell—like the feelings shown by a village in a Frankenstein picture. Of course, one paper in particular tied these deaths up with radic-activity and H. bombs, etc.,etc.

I want to stress here that the papers concerned did not get in touch with me before they printed their story. I admit I was in Harrogate and not at home, but, my address could easily have been obtained from the Congress Headquarters.

Now, what are the facts? In 1959, there were three deaths from leukaemia in the Clowne Rural District. If you take my three districts together you find the following figures:—

Deaths from Leukaemia	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Bolsover U.D.	-	2	1	1	-
Blackwell R.D.	1	1	3	-	2
Clowne R.D.	-	1	-	-	3

Remember, the papers said there had been five deaths from leukaemia in Creswell within a few months! As the above shows, there have not been five deaths in the whole of Clowne R.D. in the last **FIVE YEARS**, never mind months. And, lumping my three districts together, there have only been fifteen deaths from leukaemia in the last five years. The figures published in the press were, therefore, an exaggeration (at best) and a figment of the imagination (at worst).

We have disposed of the figures given. What about the assumption that there was a common cause? I can do no better than quote from the report which I made to Clowne Rural District Council.

"I have now received notification of three deaths from leukaemia this year. These all occurred in men who live in Creswell. I have investigated these cases and I give my findings below :—

Case 1. age 15. This adolescent was admitted to hospital on 5.4.59. He had been ill for two years previously. He was diagnosed as myeloid leukaemia. Despite treatment he died on 27.4.59.

Case 2. age 67. This man was first seen at hospital on 13.8.58. and he had been ill for several months. He was diagnosed as lymphatic leukaemia. He initially gave a good response to treatment but his condition deteriorated and he was admitted into hospital on 12.3.59. He died on 18.3.59. I have said that he took ill in 1958 but on going through his history it was found that he developed an enlarged gland in 1941. It is very probable that his leukaemia started before 1941. Lymphatic leukaemia can behave in this manner. There can be phases of remission lasting years during which the disease is quiescent.

Case 3. age 35. This man was seen originally in hospital in 1954, when he had been ill for two years. He was diagnosed as chronic myeloid leukaemia. With treatment the disease was kept fairly well in control for nearly four years. However, by July, 1958, it became obvious that the leukaemia was changing to a more acute form. Further treatment produced six months remission but he again became acutely ill and died on 30.1.59."

If anyone, after reading the above report, can find a common cause in these three cases, then I shall eat my hat and boots as well. These deaths had nothing whatever to do with H. bombs, A. bombs or any other bombs.

Thus on both grounds, the papers were wrong. They printed wrong totals and suggested an impossible cause. The whole article was rubbish. All this without consulting the M.O.H. for the area. What happened when all the facts came out? Was there a retraction? Not on your life, there was only a 'dignified silence' on the offender's part.

My purpose in writing this is twofold. First, I want to reassure all the people in my districts. Second, I wish to show how irresponsibly the press can behave. At many Conferences one hears about how the Press will co-operate and about how they will only report soberly. Well, the proof of the pudding is in the eating. And, this particular pudding would have made anyone throw up. The galling thing is the lack of retraction. To this day there are probably people quoting Creswell as an example of the dangers of atomic radiation. We all know the old saying, 'seeing is believing' and it does hold good for many people. Unfortunately, what they saw in this instance was a mere mirage.

I must emphasise that all the above refers to national newspapers. The local papers (as they have always done with me) behaved responsibly and soberly. When I returned from Harrogate, they got in touch with me and ascertained the true facts. I thank them for their good sense and courtesy over this affair.

To sum up :—

1. There were three deaths in Creswell from leukaemia in 1959, not five in a few months.
2. I am firmly convinced that these deaths were not caused by atomic radiation.

AN UNEXPECTED RESULT

Recently, I was talking to a mother whose little girl had been in hospital suffering from an infectious disease. The little girl is aged $4\frac{1}{2}$ years and she is an only child. Naturally, I asked if she were better now that she was home again. To my pleasure, the mother replied that her daughter was better in every way since her stay in hospital. As for the illness, that had been completely cured. But, in addition, there had been many other benefits. These improvements were as follows :—

1. She was more independent in every way.
2. She would bathe herself and use the toilet by herself, both with less fuss than before.
3. She would help get sandwiches and then enjoy them. And altogether she was much less 'faddy' about food.
4. She could dress herself.
5. Her previous attitude of not wanting to go to school had changed to one of positive anticipation. Now, she just can't wait to get started at school.

In short, to quote her mother : 'It was a pleasure to have her home'.

Well, that is what happened in a particular case. More important, though, is what happens generally. I worked as a paediatric house physician for six months. During that time I helped care for many children (there were well over 100 beds and cots in the unit in which I worked). Their ages ranged from a few days to 14 years and there were equal numbers of boys and girls. How did they get on ?

They were visited regularly by their parents. Saturday afternoon was the longest and most important visiting time. I was present throughout this time and was always available to report progress to the parents (this is a procedure which I feel every hospital should follow ; once a week a Doctor should be present at visiting time to answer questions). After the parents left, there were always tears. The amount of tears varied from child to child and in each particular child from time to time. I and the nurses then made a point of jostling the children up a bit. You would tousele the head of this one, look at that one's comics and accept a sweet or a chocolate biscuit from another one. In a short time we could have all the children laughing. Indeed with all the sweets and presents that had been brought in, we soon had a party of sorts going. All that was needed was a little extra time and relaxation on the part of the staff.

I used to tell the above to parents when they asked me if their child was fretting. Quite honestly, I doubt if they believed me because when they last saw their child, he or she was probably sobbing as though they would never stop. It may be difficult to believe that in 10 minutes that child would be laughing and swapping comics and sweets with a neighbour, but in my experience that is exactly what happened, time after time.

So, parents, if your child has to go into hospital, please do not worry about them fretting. They are more likely to have the time of their young lives. Of course, I cannot speak for every particular child, but, I can swear that the vast majority of the children in my care, while I worked in hospital, did not fret. Further, you have the example before you of the one particular child with whom I started this little section.

PAIL CLOSETS

One week of my 1959 holidays was spent in Skye. This is an island off the coast of Scotland. If you look at a large scale map of Skye you will see a place called Elgol which is situated on the south west coast of the island. This little hamlet must contain at least six houses. People go there because you get a wonderful view of the Cuillin Hills from Elgol and there is a motor boat trip round the base of the hills (there is also really clean air which has to be inhaled to be believed). While I was there, the sound of the sea had its usual effect on me. I looked around and saw a little whitewashed building with a welcome inscription upon it. With some trepidation, I entered, wondering what sort of primitive apparatus I should find. To my gratification, I found an efficient and spotless water closet, of which I made good use.

Has this anything to do with my districts? Yes, I feel it has. This year, we had a Clearance Area refused by the Minister. The houses in this area had pail closets. At the Hearing, the owners of the houses promised to

repair and improve them. They did **not** promise at the Hearing to convert the pail closets to water closets. The area concerned is situated only half a mile from a small town of some 3,000 people. Yet, the inspector found that having regard to the fact that we were a rural district etc., pail closets could be accepted. I cannot agree with this finding. In this day and age, should we not have housing standards which forbid the use of pail closets? And, if a water closet can be provided in a hamlet on Skye then surely they should be demanded by law in houses near a population of 3,000 or so.

I remember many trips I made with my mother when I was a little boy. My maternal grandparents are buried in Old Monkland cemetery which is near Coatbridge. We used to visit their graves frequently. Afterwards we would visit some cousins of my mother who lived in a village called Bargeddie. The village was supplied with very primitive pail closets. Even as a little boy I was offended to the depths of my being by these. The smell was loathsome and the flies were thick. I was literally very nearly sick every time I used them—I can remember fighting the urge to vomit. I am pleased to say that these houses were demolished long before 1939.

From the aesthetic point of view, nothing can be said for pail closets. As for health, anyone who is not blind can see that they attract flies. Flies are called flies because they fly. And they fly here, there and everywhere after they have investigated a pail closet. Can anyone doubt that disease is spread thus?

In short, I feel that our housing standards should be altered so that a water closet becomes compulsory. At present a back to back house is held to be unfit merely because it is back to back. I am certain that the same provision ought to apply to a house with a pail closet. Indeed, if my wife and I had to choose between a back to back house with a w.c. and a non back to back with a pail closet I know which we should have. I sincerely hope that I shall see pail closets made illegal during my working life.

Note. In case some of you are suspicious after reading

the first paragraph of this section, I wish to make it clear that I am not employed by the Scottish Tourist Board. At the same time, honesty compels me to admit that you could not find a better place for your holiday if you wish good scenery and healthy sparkling air, not to mention our National Product.

A WOMAN'S WORK

I am neither pro- nor anti-feminist. Yet I feel that many of the women in my districts get a very raw deal. Most of the men are on shift work. In many of the houses there are two or three men who are all on shifts. It seems to be the rule in such a case for them all to be on different shifts. Then, the lady of the house can become a slave chained to her cooker. Just think of how many meals she has to cook if she has three men all coming in at different times.

Because of shifts, women are faced with excess work. I can think of nothing worse. The ordinary household tasks are bad enough without increasing them. In addition, all this excess cooking is bad for health. Many times you hear a woman say: 'I was so sick of cooking, I couldn't eat a thing'. I have often seen grossly obese women who have said that they never sat down to a meal. True, but they did not say how many cups of tea they had per day. The temptation, when one is always cooking, is just to have a cup of tea and a biscuit or a piece of bread. It is surprising how many women live on such a diet. Thus, they live on a diet which is deficient in balance and which, to add insult to injury, is very likely to cause obesity.

Shift work is necessary, I admit. But I do not see any necessity for men in the same household to be on different shifts. Surely they could go to work at the same time and come back at the same time, thus cutting down the number of meals necessary. If housewives had a union, I would feel they were within their rights to demand this. The only objection I can see is the possibility of an accident occurring in a pit. Still, I think this could be minimised by having relatives working in different shafts or parts of the mine. And, not all shift work is in pits, anyway.

So far, I have mentioned adults. What happens at the other end of life? Well, the housewife can get both ends of the stick. When I came here I found that the infant, junior and senior schools (in the same town or village, mark you) all had different holidays. If I had been a mother I would have objected very strenuously. The position has improved a bit. Now all the schools in each Educational Division have the same holidays. But, this is not enough. Take for instance, the case of Bolsover. Bolsover is in the N.E. division but not a few Bolsover children go to school in Chesterfield which is an Excepted District. The result is different school holidays in some Bolsover households. To my mind, this is ridiculous.

As I have said above, the thought of extra work is abhorrent to me. When this extra work is prejudicial to health I become angry. Housewives arise, you have nothing to lose but the chains which bind you to your cooker.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (Acres)	...	...	...	13,429
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	19,072
„ mid-year (Registrar-General 1959)				19,390
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1959)				
according to Rate books	...	...	...	6,282
Rateable value 1959	...	...	...	£151,632
Sum represented by a Penny-rate 1959			...	£600

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The chief occupation is coal mining. There has been very little unemployment.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS.

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births	329	166	163
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.0	(corrected)	
Still Births	8	4	4
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births			23.7
Total Live and Still Births	337	170	167
Infant Deaths	10	6	4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births			30.4
Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate			31.1
Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate			Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Deaths in first four weeks)			18.2
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births			2.1
Maternal deaths (including abortion)			nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births			nil

Comments.

The increase in the number of births and in the birth rate (compared to last year) is very slight indeed. Still, it is far better to have a small increase than to have a decrease.

The number of still births and the still birth rate are both lower this year. This is a decrease I like to see.

Now for a sad increase, the infant mortality rate is higher. Fortunately, the neo-natal mortality rate is lower and there have been no deaths in illegitimate infants this year. Let us compare these figures with the national ones, viz :—

	Clowne	Eng. & Wales
Infant Mortality Rate	30.4	22.2 (provisional)
Nec-Natal Mortality Rate	18.2	15.8 (provisional)

It is sad to see our figures worse than the national ones. The infant mortality rate is much higher. Six infants died under the age of four weeks. The causes of death were :—

Congenital Abnormality and Prematurity	1
Prematurity	1
Intracranial haemorrhage and Prematurity	1
Respiratory failure and Prematurity	1
Prematurity and Haemorrhage in the mother	1
Respiratory failure and Atelectasis	1

Four infants died between the age of four weeks and one year. The causes of death were two respiratory infections, one intestinal infection and one accidental death.

From the above, prematurity is shown once again to be a grave danger. It played a great part in five out of the six deaths under four weeks.

Again, I can only repeat that I recommend ante-natal care. This is the only means we have at present to counter and prevent prematurity. Every mother to be should go to any lengths in order to receive ante-natal care.

DEATHS.

	Total	Male	Female
	206	115	91

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.5 (corrected), National Death Rate 11.5. The total number of deaths and the corrected Death Rate are both higher than in 1958.

Causes of Death	Male	Female
Cancer (stomach)	4	2
Cancer (lung)	2	2
Cancer (Breast)	-	3
Cancer (uterus)	-	1
Cancer (Other sites)	8	13
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	-
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	10	11
Coronary disease, angina	16	4
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2
Other Heart Disease	20	20
Other circulatory disease	5	5
Influenza	2	-
Pneumonia	3	5
Bronchitis	9	9
Other respiratory diseases	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases	11	6
Motor Vehicle accidents	4	3
All other accidents	6	2
Suicide	4	1
Homicide and operations of war	-	1

Comments.

The total number of deaths is higher than last year. There were 206 deaths against 181. The number of male deaths is virtually the same (115 against 111), but there has been an increase in the number of female deaths (91 against 70). This is due chiefly to an increase in :-

1. Cancer deaths (other sites)—increase of 9.
2. Pneumonia—increase of 4.
3. Bronchitis—increase of 4.

Last year it grieved me to point out that there had been 10 deaths from accidents. As you can expect, it saddens me even more to see that there have been 15 accidental deaths this year. What a shocking waste of lives. Allied to this, there were 5 deaths by suicide and 1 by homicide. In other words, very nearly 10% of the total number of deaths could have been avoided.

There are only two bright points about this year. First, there were no deaths from tuberculosis. Second, there was no death from pregnancy, childbirth, or abortion (there has only been 1 maternal death in the last five years).

Let us hope that the figures for 1950 will make a better showing.

Causes of Death 1955-1959

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	2	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	1	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	1	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	2	-
Cancer, stomach	6	8	8	9	4
Cancer, lung	4	4	8	2	6
Cancer, breast	3	2	2	-	2
Cancer, uterus	1	-	2	2	-
Cancer, other sites	21	14	6	15	14
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	-	-	1	-
Diabetes	1	1	1	3	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	21	20	28	30	22
Coronary disease, angina	20	24	19	21	18
Hypertension with heart disease	3	2	2	6	3
Other heart disease	40	43	41	36	46
Other circulatory disease	10	11	12	9	8
Influenza	2	1	2	-	2
Pneumonia	8	6	13	15	7
Bronchitis	18	12	14	12	14
Other respiratory diseases	1	3	1	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2	1	4	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	2	-	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	-	3	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	1	-	-
Congenital Malformations	1	5	3	3	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases	17	10	17	17	24
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	2	2	1	1
All other accidents	8	8	6	6	5
Suicide	5	-	3	2	2
Homicide and operations of war	1	-	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics.

These are provided by the Derbyshire County Council

Ambulance.

This service is provided by the County Council.

Laboratory Facilities.

1. **Analytical**—provided by the County Council.
2. **Bacteriological**—provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

I thank both for their courtesy and efficiency.

Chest Clinic.

The nearest Clinic is in Chesterfield, under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Another Clinic is held at the Victoria Hospital, Worksop (Watson Road Clinic) and Mansfield hold one at Kings Mill Hospital.

Venereal Disease.

Treatment and advice can be obtained at Derby Royal Infirmary, Chesterfield Royal Hospital, Victoria Hospital, Worksop, and Mansfield and District General Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.

This is supplied by the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clwne Water Board. We have a good supply of water.

Report from Chemist for Year 1959

Routine samples for chemical and bacteriological analysis were collected from Hodthorpe Pumping Station throughout the year.

At this Station the water received from Manton Colliery is subjected to chlorination and all treated water samples showed the absence of coliform organisms from 100 ml.

The chemical characteristics of the supply showed little variation, the average hardness being 380 p.p.m. CaCO_3 and the electrical conductivity 1,110 micromhos/cc at 20°C. Monthly samples for bacteriological and physical analysis were also examined at the following distribution points throughout the year :—

BARLBOROUGH RESERVOIRS (2)

BARLBOROUGH TANK.

HOUSEHOLD TAPS IN CLOWNE AND
CRESWELL.

All results proved satisfactory at these points with the exception of Barlborough Tank. In the course of routine sampling during May, this tank was found to be contaminated by masses of decaying straw and vegetation (the origin of which was never isolated despite exhaustive enquiries). The tank was immediately removed from service and following cleaning and sterilization gave satisfactory results for the remainder of the year.

The development of new works in Clowne Rural District by Steetley Company necessitated laying of new main from Bolsover area to enable this new demand to be met, consequently a further distribution sample was introduced in November. This was Household Tap, Mansfield Road, Clowne, and at this point on the line of the Bolsover Moor Clowne main bacteriological results were satisfactory.

During the Summer months samples were taken from Creswell Swimming Baths. Two samples in April proved unsatisfactory bacteriologically, the cause being a break-down in the gas chlorination and lack of a satisfactory alternative. However, all samples taken after the resumption of gas chlorination proved satisfactory.

Results of Examination of Sample of Water:

Taken from Hodthorpe P.S. (Chlorinated) on
16th February, 1959

Agar plate counts per 1 ml.				
2 days at 37° C	...	...	...	0
3 days at 20° C	...	...	...	0
Coliform counts per 100 ml.				
2 days at 37° C	...	...	...	0
Bact. Coli type 1 (44° C)	...	...	...	0

Physical and Physico-Chemical Examination.

Appearance—Clear T.S.M.
Colour (Burgess) 5 mm (Hazen)
Taste—Normal.
Electrical Conductivity—1,150 units.
Odcu—VF (h-lcl)
pH 7.9

Chemical Analysis (Expressed in mg. per litre.)

Carbonate Hardness (CaCO_3)	...	156
Non-Carbonate Hardness (CaCO_3)	...	238
Total Hardness (CaCO_3)	...	394
Total Alkalinity (CaCO_3)	...	156
Chlorides (Cl)	...	188.5
Iron (Fe)	...	0.04
Monochloramine	...	0.03
Dichloramine		nil

Residual Chlorine.

Free 0.24 mg/l. Combined 0.03 mg/l.

CONVERSIONS OF PAILS AND PRIVIES TO WATER CLOSETS

This worthwhile work continues to be done. 19 conversions were carried out during 1959.

HOUSING

I am pleased to record an increase in the number of houses built this year. 28 houses were completed (17 in 1958). 16 houses were built by the Council and 12 were built by private enterprise.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTION 47.

No action was taken under this Act during 1959.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

There are 150 retail food shops in the area of which 78 shops sell ice-cream and 19 are also making-up places. There are no dairies.

FOOD PREMISES

Butchers	23	Confectionery	11
Making up places	19	Sweets	23
Grocers	71	Wet Fish	10
Greengrocers	12	Fried Fish	11

1,089 visits under the Food and Drugs Acts were made during the year.

Only one ice cream manufacturer is in the district, he uses cold mix method and the premises are satisfactory.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1959

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified.													Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District	Total Cases remaining to Hospital	Total Deaths		
	At Ages - years																	
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up					
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	Barbington	11	1	1	..
Erysipelas	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	Creswell	27	1	..	1
Scarlet Fever	55	..	..	..	7	9	34	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Pneumonia	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Dysentery	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polio-myelitis (Paralytic)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
do. (Non-Paralytic)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	6	1	2	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	2	..
Measles	147	6	16	16	18	17	69	5	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	64	78	..
Para-Typhoid Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Gastro Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever.

There were 55 cases this year ; last year there were 40. Thus, for two years in a row we have had a large number of cases. Fortunately, the vast majority have been very mild and, therefore, these large numbers do not give rise to anxiety.

Diphtheria.

Once again, we had no case. There has not been a case of diphtheria in Clowne since 1948. This happy position can be maintained if we continue to have our children immunised. Dr Morgan (County M.O.H.) has kindly supplied the following figures showing how many children were immunised in Clowne Rural District.

	1959	1958	1957
Under 1 year	123	143	97
1—4 years (incl.)	40	42	41
5—14 years (incl.)	82	95	186
	245	280	324

I am very sorry indeed to have to report that these numbers have gone down for the second year in succession. I strongly advise parents to have their children immunised against diphtheria. This can be done by the County Council Medical Staff or by their own Doctor.

Poliomyelitis.

There was no case of poliomyelitis this year. I urge everyone, who is offered the chance of vaccination against this illness, to accept it. !

Measles.

This was the year of the two year cycle in which we had a lot of measles. In all, there were 147 cases! Most of these occurred in the second (42) and third quarters (94). Only 5 cases occurred over the age of 10 years, and there were none over the age of 14.

Whooping Cough.

There were only 6 cases this year. However, this illness must not be treated lightly just because there were so few cases this year. Whooping cough can be a very severe illness; it can even be a killer. I admit that immunisation does not confer 100% protection but it does give a good degree of protection and I advise parents to accept it for their children.

Food Poisoning.

No case was notified during 1959, nor 1958.

Tuberculosis.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease during the year :—

Age Periods in years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...

Phthisis death rate per 1,000 population—nil.

It is very pleasing to record that there were no tuberculosis deaths this year. Also, there was one less new case than in 1958.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

There are 27 factories registered in the Clowne Rural District which are inspected from time to time, and action taken as it is necessary. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

1. Inspections

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	27	35	—	—
i) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. excluding outworkers' Premises.)	—	—	—	—
Total	27	35	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars.	Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pros- ecutions were in- stituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences.					
(a) insufficient	1	—	—	1	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relat- ing to Outwork.)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	—	1	—

3. Part 8 of the Act

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in Aug. list required by Sect. 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel making, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	—	—	—	—

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**SURVEYOR and SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR**

For the Year 1959

Council Offices,
CLOWNE.

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the
CLOWNE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting for your attention my thirteenth Annual Report.

As in previous years I have drawn your attention to the amount of work performed yearly by the Council Staff in my section, and the volume of which is increasing each year. A community's demands on public services increase by virtue of their constitution. The more progressive the community, so is there a greater demand for speed and efficiency in those services. Your district is no exception to this. The demands on the staff have reached a point that there is no margin for sickness and holidays. Normal full annual leave is not being taken by certain members of the staff and additional leave for long service, negotiated between employers and employees representatives, cannot be worked in. The volume of work referred to would not produce the results achieved and services given were it not for the staff's sense of duty and responsibility.

We lost the services of Mr M. F. Swingler in January, 1959, and it was not until October, 1959, did we fill the vacancy with Mr T. G. Robinson on the Inspectoral Staff. Much of the routine work had to be left and the inspection of slaughterhouses and the preparation of the reports for submission to the Ministry, the inspection

of petrol stations, the introduction of standard grants and revised discretionary grants, preparation of reports and notices to comply with Home Office Regulations and the numerous surveys, made serious inroads into the time of a depleted and overworked staff.

I wish to express my appreciation to Mr Buckland for his loyalty and devotion to duty during this period, Dr. Robertson for his encouragement, Mr G. Rogers, Mrs Spooner and Miss Mallender in my office for their readiness throughout the year to "pull out" willingly and cheerfully when required to do so.

I am grateful to Mr Culverhouse and his staff for their co-operation and assistance.

I am glad the services of Mr Money, the Clerk of Works were extended by the Council. His experience and knowledge, his loyalty and understanding are well known and appreciated.

To the Foremen, Mr Butcher and Mr Hamilton, and their respective staffs I express my appreciation of their loyalty and assistance.

Finally, may I be permitted to express my warm thanks to the Chairman of the Council's Committees for the courtesy and kindness with which they have considered the various suggestions and recommendations made to them and the Chairman and members of the Council for their help.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR A. SHORT,

Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector

COUNCIL HOUSING

The number of houses built during the year was less than those built in each of the previous years since 1946. There were only 16 dwellings completed against the average of 113 houses per year over the past ten years.

In December, there were 8 families living in houses subject of Demolition Orders and there were 392 applications for housing accommodation on the register. This figure although a true record of the application forms in the Housing Applications Register, it does not reflect a true picture of the housing need of the district. In December only the Whitwell section of the register had been revised, the other three parishes were revised in January, 1960, furthermore there were 503 tenant applications and only 189 sub-tenant applications of which 61 were less than one year standing on the register.

People are becoming more aware of the shortcomings of the privately owned house they occupy such as the lack of hot water, bath, inside water closet and food store hence the high proportion of tenant applications to sub-tenants. If the amenities referred to were available in the houses, the tenant applicants on the Housing Applications Register would be less.

The Standard Grant procedure laid down by the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, has done much to encourage the provision of these amenities, but as the Council is aware the legal powers are not sufficient to require the owners to provide amenities which are fast becoming necessities. Unfortunately the standard for existing houses still permits a standard of just a pure water supply—one tap only—cold at that, an accessible water closet—not necessarily inside, not even contiguous to the house, no wash basin or even a bath.

The total number of houses under the control of the Council on 31st December, was 1,816.

Maintenance

During the year 5,031 complaints were received and the Council workmen remedied a total of 4,906 defects.

252 properties were painted externally distributed as follows :—

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats	Other Properties
Creswell Road, Clowne	4			
Markland Avenue, Clowne	3			
Rose Avenue, Clowne				12
Harlethorpe Avenue, Clowne				6
Wilson Avenue, Clowne	2			
Jago Avenue, Clowne			12	
Eyre Street, Creswell		8		
West Street, Creswell		4		
Portland Avenue, Creswell		28		
East Street, Creswell		6		
Skinner Street, Creswell		6		
Churchfields, Creswell	10			
Station Road, Whitwell			32	
Holmefield Road, Whitwell	42	2	52	
Croft Walk, Whitwell		2		
Calf Croft, Whitwell		12		
King Street, Hodthorpe	4			
	—	—	—	—
	70	68	96	18
	—	—	—	—

No infestation of bed bugs was discovered in Council Houses, but treatment for woodworm and cockroaches was carried out and in certain circumstances the repair work necessary proved extensive.

Mining Subsidence

During the year 213 further properties throughout the District were surveyed and it was found that 74 properties had been affected. The appropriate claims were registered with the National Coal Board.

Alterations in Council Houses

During the year 66 applications were made for alterations to be carried out in Council accommodation, each application involving at least four visits.

Housing General

107 visits were made to Council Properties in connection with terminations and exchanges of tenancies during the year.

PRIVATELY OWNED HOUSES

Repairs to privately owned houses as a result of formal and informal action by the Department are as follows :—

Dwellinghouses

Roofs repaired				37
Floors repaired, ventilated, etc.	...	...		7
Plastered walls and ceilings repaired			...	40
Windows repaired, made to open, etc.			...	25
Sashcords renewed	...	...	...	15
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	3
Skirting boards provided or repaired			...	1
Doors repaired, rehung, or renewed	...	...		31
Firegrates repaired, reset, or renewed			...	37
Chimneys, or chimney stacks, repaired			...	14
New sinks provided and fixed	...	...		12
Sink wastes repaired or renewed	...	...		9
Wash coppers repaired or provided	...	...		4
Copper firesets repaired	...	...	...	1
External walls pointed	...	...	...	56
Ovens repaired, or renewed	...	...	...	11
External walls cemented, or tarred	...	...		1
Eavesgutters and R.W.P. renewed	...	...		28
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	2

Drains, etc.

Obstructed drains cleansed	...	...	...	2
Drains repaired, or reconstructed	...	...		5
Inspection chamber covers renewed	...	...		4
W.C. basins renewed, or repaired	...	...		6
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...		15
Closet structures repaired	...	...	...	28
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	44
Closet pails provided	...	...	...	1

Rent Act, 1957

During 1959, work under the Rent Act, showed signs of reducing. There were nine applications for Certificates of Disrepair, all of which were either granted or an undertaking from the owner accepted.

There were five applications from owners for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair and all these were granted.

Improvement Grants

The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, came into force during the year and its effect was to alter procedure for Improvement Grants and to also institute Standard Grants with a simplified procedure.

There were 36 applications for Discretionary Grants. Of these 28 were granted, 1 refused, 2 were converted into Standard Grants and 5 were withdrawn for various reasons.

There were 29 applications for Standard Grants, 23 of which were approved and 3 were withdrawn.

The advice and supervision of these Grants takes up a lot of the time of the Department, particularly the technical staff, and reflects a direct asset in the improvement of the housing conditions of the people.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

The improvement in getting repairs done to property has been maintained, and it will be noted that property generally is improving in its external appearance.

Six privately owned houses were made fit by the Council on the default of the owner. 100 were made fit after informal action and 122 were made fit after formal action.

The Council had to resort to legal proceedings against the owners of 14 houses.

Conversions

The conversion of privies and pails to water-closets continues, and 19 were converted in Barlborough.

Moveable Dwellings

No additional licences were granted during the year and no complaints were reported about caravans.

There is a total of 4 vans licenced in your District.

It was found necessary during the year, however, to move individual caravans who squatted without permission on undesirable sites.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Unfit Houses

One house was represented as being unfit for human habitation and the Council accepted an undertaking that the house would be brought up to a satisfactory standard. This was done during the year.

NEW BUILDINGS INSPECTION

A total of 253 applications for the erection and alterations of buildings were received. 149 were completed involving a total of 1,170 visits. The work involved in this section has increased considerably.

12 private dwellings were completed during the year and 8 were under construction in December.

Planning and Byelaw Applications

Planning	37
Byelaw Only	166
	<hr/>
	253
	<hr/>
Brought forward from 1953	12
Approvals permanent	213
Approvals temporary	-
Refusals	19
Withdrawals	9
Outstanding at December	7

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The public conveniences in each of the Parishes are expensive to maintain because of the inexplicable acts of vandalism. One cannot understand the reasons for such acts of wanton destruction which appear to be coming more prevalent and that properties belonging to a Council can be damaged without compunction.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

PARISH OF BARLBOROUGH

Slayley Lane Works

The new works on this site were virtually completed at the end of the year. The contractors and Mr Haslam are to be congratulated on the speed with which this work was done on a site presenting many engineering and structural difficulties.

Barbers Row

This plant which was repaired last year is now functioning satisfactorily.

Wood Lane

This plant continues to function satisfactorily without causing a nuisance.

PARISH OF CLOWNE

Hellin Hill Works

These works have functioned satisfactorily during the year.

Low Road Works

These works function satisfactorily with a minimum of supervision. They are attractively laid out and well maintained.

PARISH OF CRESWELL

These works are still not giving the satisfactory effluents expected of them. Much time was spent in tracing various trade and domestic effluents in an attempt to find a solution to the problem. It was found that an exceptionally high chloride content was due to the pumping of the Creswell Colliery shaft water into the sewers. Representations to the National Coal Board were made and it was agreed to re-route the shaft water.

Serious damage was also found due to mine workings and I arranged with the Civil Engineering Department of the Board to make a survey.

The grounds were laid out, grass seeded down and trees were planted. Bulbs and herbaceous plants were planted on the banks and borders.

PARISH OF WHITWELL

Whitwell Works

Alterations were carried out to the pumping arrangements and inlet following the re-laying of the sewerage system on Station Road.

The works continue to give a good effluent.

Hedderpe Works

These works are most unsatisfactory. They comprise a hand raked screen settlement tank, storm water tank, bacteria bed, sludge beds and a series of weirs which were originally designed to deal with residual humus.

NEW SEWERS COMPLETED DURING 1959

Barlborough

Clowne Road to Barlborough Sewage Disposal Works

58 1/3 yds.—12" Concrete Sewer
438 yards.—9" Concrete Sewer
720 yds.—6" Salt Glazed Ware.

Chesterfield Road to Barlborough Sewage Disposal Works

250 yds.—12" Concrete Sewer.

Whitwell

Station Road to Whitwell Sewage Disposal Works

317 yds.—27" Concrete Sewer
334 yds.—21" Concrete Sewer
150 yds.—18" Concrete Sewer
119 yds.—15" Concrete Sewer
70 yds.—9" Cast Iron Sewer.

New Street and Bakestone Moor

94 yds.—12" Salt Glazed Ware Sewer
203 yds.—9" Salt Glazed Ware Sewer.

CLEANSING AND SALVAGE

The cleansing section of my Department continues to function smoothly and with little complaint. A regular weekly collection is maintained.

The Tip at Southfield Lane has been kept under constant and strict supervision. Few complaints have been received despite its close proximity to the housing estate. It is a "controlled" tip and is frequently visited by the Pest Officer.

Morris Quarry Tip is completely filled in and by an arrangement with the Welbeck Estates, the surface is being covered by sewage sludge instead of soil.

Paper and Metals are salvaged from the refuse by hand and sold. Revenue from this source brought in £454 compared with £464 last year.

The work carried out by the cleansing staff is summarised in the following table :—

	Dustbins	Pails	Ashpits	Privies	Cesspools
Freighter 1	174,268	-	-	-	-
Freighter 3	53,705	-	-	-	-
Freighter 5	92,079	-	-	-	-
Lorry 2	445	5,288	477	408	143
Lorry 3	5,474	1,647	234	426	3
Lorry 4	1,500	8	6	1	-
Totals	327,471	6,943	767	835	147

Cleansing Vehicle Maintenance

Freighter No. 3 (Karrier CK3) New master cylinder and wheel cylinder to brake system and complete overhaul.

Lorry 3 (Karrier Bantam) Complete overhaul of brake system. New Master and wheel cylinders fitted. Tipping gear renewed. New cross member fitted to chassis.

Lorry 4 (Bedford) New crank shaft fitted, complete overhaul of engine and wiring system.

Truck 2 (Ford 10 cwt.) Re-conditioned engine fitted.

Vehicle Details

	Reg No	Date Licensed	Make	1959 Mileage
Lorry 2	CRB 585	1.8.36	SD	3,895
Freighter 3	KRB 860	5.5.47	Karrier	6,931
Freighter 5	AKS 103	27.6.47	SD	7,251
Lorry 4	LKA 29	16.2.50	Bedford	10,865
Lorry 3	PRA 791	16.3.51	Karrier	8,753
Freighter 1	TNU 913	1.6.53	SD	5,744
Truck 1	WRB 106	3.1.55	Morris	15,055
Truck 2	934 CRB	5.12.56	Ford	11,619

MEAT INSPECTION

The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, came into operation during the year and all six slaughterhouses were inspected in accordance with the requirements of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. A report to the Council concluded that no slaughterhouse at present came up to standard of the new construction regulations, but that with certain work and alterations, two were likely to reach the new standard.

The trade were informed of the Council's opinions. There were two meetings with the interested parties to hear any representations which they may have wished to make. Subsequently a report was compiled and sent to the Minister.

There were six slaughterhouses licensed during the year and your Inspectors made 1,011 visits to slaughterhouses.

The bulk of the work takes place at the Midland Bacon Factory, but it must be appreciated that, although the slaughtering at the other five slaughterhouses is only a minor contribution to the total, the time taken up is considerable. Meat inspection is not work which can be left. It must be done the same day, and very often within three hours of slaughter. The effect of this is to throw an immediate burden on the remaining staff when illness or staff shortages occur as happened during the greater part of 1959. Nevertheless, I am proud to report that in spite of these difficulties a 100% inspection of meat animals killed in the area was carried out. A check is made of meat imported into the area when time allows.

Two cases of cysticercus bovis were found during the year, representing .44% of the total number of beasts killed, and, as there was no generalised infection, the carcasses were refrigerated, in accordance with the Ministry's recommendation.

**Diseases for which some organ or part of a carcass was
Condemned**

Tuberculosis	336	Abscesses	62
Pneumonia	316	Bruising or fractures	23
Pleurisy		Cysts	31
Cirrhosis	301	Cysticercous Bovis	2
Pericarditis	63	Others	1
Distomatosis	24		

In addition 40 pigs were wholly condemned for reasons given below :—

Tuberculosis	12	Leukaemia	1
Moribund	7	Pyæmia	5
Septicaemia	3	Multiple Abscesses	1
Pneumonia Acute Septic	1		

**Carcasses and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole
or in Part**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	452	6	2	968	17,827
All Diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole Carcasses					
Condemned	—	—	—	—	18
Part Carcasses or Organs					
Condemned	60	1	—	1	823
Percentage					
Diseased	15.5	16.8	—	.1	4.2
Tuberculosis Only					
Whole Carcasses					
Condemned	—	—	—	—	12
Part Carcasses or Organs					
Condemned	12	—	—	—	336
Percentage					
Diseased	2.5	—	—	—	1.9

FOOD INSPECTION

Staff shortages reduced the number of food hygiene visits during the year but most of the premises were visited at least once and there were no contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. All new applications were visited immediately to ensure that the requisite equipment is available and from that point onwards it becomes a matter of persuasion and education in the preparation and handling of food.

Unsatisfactory food mostly tinned goods was submitted for examination and 15 visits were made in this connection. Certificates issued by the Department covered the following foods :—

Foods submitted for Examination and Voluntary Surrender

Tinned Foods

Fruit	42	Soup	18
Tomatoes	141	Milk	21
Meat	42	Milk Puddings	6
Beans	18	Vegetables	7
Peas	12	Hammon	4
Fish	14		

Other Foods

Lemon Curd	1 jar	Bacon	4 lbs.
Cheese	2 lbs.	Dried Fruit	2 lbs.
Boiled Ham	5 lbs.	Minced Beef	10 lbs.
Jam	56 lbs.		

Ice Cream

A total of eight ice cream premises were registered to sell ice cream. Only one producer of ice cream is in the District and this manufacturer uses a cold mix. The premises are satisfactory.

Cafes and Canteens

There are nine cafes and canteens in the District, all comply with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, and are regularly visited. A satisfactory standard is maintained.

PESTS ACT, 1959

No increase in infestations were apparent during the year and sewer treatments were carried out.

	Visits	Total Bait Points	Total Takes
Council Tips and Plants	239	626	782
All other premises	1,601		

PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT

25 Factories are in the register and they are regularly visited. Conditions are generally satisfactory.

Pcwer Factories	27
Other Factories (building sites, etc.)	1
Inspections made	31

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Inspectioncs were made during the year for all sections of the Shops Act, 1950.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Two cases of prior approval of furnaces and chimney heights were submitted during the year and these were approved by the Council after consultation between the technical officers and the representatives of the firms involved.

Smoke observations were regularly taken of the Creswell Colliery chimney during the year and a statutory observation was made and recommendations for improvements made to the Colliery. Although no improvement was forthcoming a promise of electrification of the winding gear was made by the National Coal Board to be carried out in eighteen months.

The first atmospheric pollution station in the District was established in November, at Hodthorpe Sewage Works.

PETROLEUM

32 licences were issued for petrol storage, the total amount in the area now being 49,000 gallons. Two new sets of tanks were installed and tested.

With the coming into being in 1960 of the new regulations relating to electrical wiring of petrol pumps, an inspection of all the premises was made during December, and the licencees notified of the work required to bring them up to standard.

CRESWELL SWIMMING BATHS

The baths were opened on the 1st April, and attendances were as follows :—

Adult Tickets	3,055
Junior Tickets	15,090
Slipper Baths	917
Spectators	1,699
Season Tickets—Senior	12
Junior	106
Polo Matches	1
County Youth Service	952

The Schools attending the baths under the Derbyshire Education Committee Scheme for swimming instruction are as follows :—

Creswell County Junior Mixed
 Frechville County Junior Mixed
 Creswell Secondary Modern Mixed
 Birley County Secondary Modern Mixed
 Killamarsh County Secondary Modern Mixed
 Frechville County Secondary Modern Mixed
 Whitwell County Junior Mixed
 Hcdthorpe Junior Mixed
 Killamarsh End County Junior Mixed
 Brockhouse County Junior Mixed
 Birley Spa County Junior Mixed
 Rainbow Forge Annexe
 St. Jchn Fisher R.C. Junior Mixed
 Clowne Secondary Modern Mixed
 Markland Secondary Modern Mixed.

The total number of school children attending the public swimming baths during the season was 22,034.

Repairs and alterations were carried out to the foot-bath and decorations to the dressing room were completed.

BUS SHELTERS

Some bus shelters were erected in each parish and it is hoped that protection from the weather in exposed places for bus passengers will be completed in next year's programme.

WAYSIDE SEATS

There were four wayside seats erected in Barlborough, three in Clowne, five in Creswell and three in Whitwell during the year, offering places of rest and relaxation in places where they are most needed and desirable.

The seats are prefabricated in the Council's workshops.

Unfortunately some of the seats and the newly erected bus shelters are subject of similar wilful damage referred to earlier in the report.

OFFICE

During the year a total of 5,766 letters and postal packages were despatched by the Department.

